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For immediate release

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ArtCenter Manatee Welcomes Three Exhibits to Our Galleries this Spring

Dirce Kennedy, Creative Arts Association and Our Annual Student Show

BRADENTON, Fla. April 13, 2016 – ArtCenter Manatee is pleased to welcome three shows to our galleries in April/May.

The first, Our Faces: Portraits by Dirce Kennedy, includes portraits in a variety of media.

Dirce combines her love of the social sciences, nature, people and their pets in her portraiture. She works to penetrate the many layers of her subjects to capture their inner beauty and spirit. Whether she uses oils, acrylics or watercolor, the blank canvases come alive with her strokes.

Dirce, who is originally from Brazil, was first introduced to art by her artist-father when she was two years old. She has exhibited in over 70 juried shows since 2011 and has received numerous awards. Her work will be displayed in the Kellogg Gallery April 26 - May 27, 2016.

Showing in the Searle Gallery will be the Creative Arts Association of Lakewood Ranch & Friends. They will present a selection of work in all media, from painting to stained glass. The group is committed to inspiring visual artists by supporting their passion for their art. They provide education, resources and networking opportunities in order to encourage and support artistic success.

The third exhibit, in the Reid Hodges Gallery, is our annual Student Show. This show highlights the work of our students, who are challenged to improve their skills and express their vision in our classes. While many of our students are professional artists, this exhibit speaks to their continued desire to learn and explore. ArtCenter Manatee is committed to providing our students the opportunity to display their work professionally and to a broader audience. Only work done in a class or workshop at ArtCenter Manatee within the last year will be accepted in this show.

All three exhibits will be on display April 26 – May 27. An opening reception will be held Thursday, April 28 from 5:00-7:00pm. The exhibits and reception are free and open to the public.

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Attached images:

Sanctum de Dali by Dirce Kennedy

Reflections by Dirce Kennedy

Tribute to My Grandfather by Jody MacNeil from the 2015 Student Show

About ArtCenter Manatee

ArtCenter Manatee is the winner of the 2015-16 Reader's Choice Award for Best Art Gallery from the Herald Tribune and the 2015 People's Choice Award for Best Gallery from The Bradenton Herald.

Located at the gateway to arts and culture in downtown Bradenton, ArtCenter Manatee is the premier center for visual arts in Manatee County. ArtCenter Manatee offers over 300 classes and workshops for adults and children, an Artists' Market gift shop featuring the work of local artists and regional artists, and three galleries with exhibits that change monthly and showcase the work of over 2,000 local, regional and national artists. Meet the exhibiting artists and art enthusiasts at our monthly evening opening receptions which are always free and open to the public.

ArtCenter Manatee is a proud member of Bradenton Kiwanis and the Manatee Chamber of Commerce, and a cultural partner of Realize Bradenton.

For more information please call 941-746-2862 or visit <http://www.artcentermanatee.org>.

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